

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/717,685	NAKATA ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	William J. Klimowicz	2652	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTO-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. This communication is responsive to _____.
2. The allowed claim(s) is/are 9, 13-16 and 28, renumbered as claims 1-6, respectively.
3. The drawings filed on _____ are accepted by the Examiner.
4. Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some* c) None of the:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. 09/506,347.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) hereto or 2) to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date 08312004.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 12
4. Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. Other _____.

Drawings

Figures 23-26 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g). Corrected drawings in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.121(d)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Divisional

U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 10/717,685 is a divisional of U.S. Patent Application Serial Number 09/506,347. The Applicant has voluntarily cancelled claims 1-8 and 14-27. Claims 9-13 and newly presented claim 28 have been examined on the merits.

Reasons for Allowance

The following is an Examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The prior art of record fails to fairly, teach, show or suggest, by either anticipating or rendering obvious, the invention as set forth in the claims of the instant application.

Furthermore, an update of a search previously made does not detect the combined claimed elements as set forth in the pending claims. Additionally, the reasons for allowance of the claims over the prior art of record is believed to be clear from the prosecution history taken as a whole. More particularly, the instant invention (as set forth in independent claim 9)

provides for an optical head inclusive of, *inter alia*, a reflecting mirror and an optical bench which maintains a light source and the reflecting mirror. The reflecting mirror is mounted to the optical bench in a manner such that no reference surface is formed in a portion of the optical bench where the reflecting mirror is mounted; a mounting angle of the reflecting mirror relative to the bench is specified instead by reference to an external jig.

The closest prior art includes Kasahara et al. (US 5,237,57) who discloses an optical head having a reflecting mirror (41) mounted to a tilt adjusting member (15), which is mounted to a carriage of the optical apparatus.

Kasahara et al. (US 5,237,57), however, does not disclose wherein the mounting of the reflecting mirror (41) is performed with reference to an external jig, such that no reference surface of an optical bench is used in specifying a mounting angle of the mirror. Since member (15) is a permanent fixture of the optical head of Kasahara et al. (US 5,237,57), it is not an “external jig” used to provide the requisite reference surface. The Applicants’ instant invention as claimed, uses the external jig for specifying the mounting angle of the reflecting mirror with no need for reference surfaces of the optical bench, as has been conventionally done.

Kasahara et al. (US 5,237,57) fails to disclose the claimed invention as set forth in the manner, function and relationship relative to other claimed structure as prescribed by the independent claim 9.

Additionally, Kasahara et al. (US 5,237,57) does not provide, alone or in combination with the art of record or general knowledge within the art, any suggestion or teaching for the invention as set forth in the independent claim 9.

Conclusion

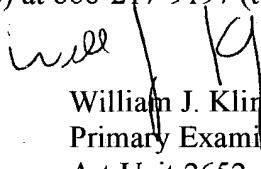
Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to William J. Klimowicz whose telephone number is (703) 305-3452. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday (6:30AM-5:00PM).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa T. Nguyen can be reached on (703) 305-9687. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


William J. Klimowicz
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2652